



IFW

PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 2155CIP2A(203-3398CIP2A)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Wham et al. Examiner: Not Assigned  
Serial No.: 10/626,390 Group: Art Unit 3739  
Filed: July 24, 2003 Dated: October 21, 2005  
For: VESSEL SEALING SYSTEM

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicant(s) duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the U.S. patent documents are not provided in accordance with the waiver of that requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98.

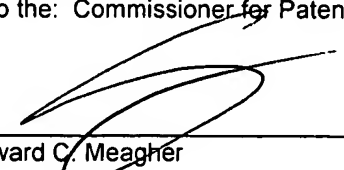
The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

---

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 21, 2005

Dated: October 21, 2005

  
Edward C. Meagher

The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application.
- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application.
- ☒ To the best of Applicant(s) knowledge, this information disclosure statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this case.
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a certificate under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(2).
- ☐ Enclosed by check is the petition fee of \$130.00. (37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1))
- ☐ Please charge the \$130.00 petition fee to Deposit Account No. 21-0550.
- ☐ Enclosed by check is the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).
- ☐ Please charge the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 21-0550.
- ☒ Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment

of such fee(s) to Deposit Account 21-0550. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. 21-0550 therefor.

The claims of the application as now presented are believed to patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward C. Meagher  
Reg. No. 41,189  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

**Carter, DeLuca, Farrell & Schmidt, LLP**  
445 Broad Hollow Road  
Suite 225  
Melville, New York 11747  
Tel.: (631) 501-5700  
Fax: (631) 501-3526

ECM/gm



without references

Sheet

1 of

6

Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)  
2155CIP2A(203-3398CIP2A)Application Number  
10/626,390

Applicant

Wham et al.

Filing Date

July 24, 2003

Group Art Number

3739

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	4,848,335	7/18/89	Manes			
	5,019,176	5/28/91	Brandhorst, Jr.			
	5,087,257	2/11/92	Farin			
	5,108,391	4/28/92	Flachenecker			
	5,162,217	11/10/92	Hartman			
	5,196,008	3/23/93	Kuenecke			
	5,267,997	12/7/93	Farin			
	5,300,070	4/5/94	Gentelia			
	5,383,874	1/24/95	Jackson			
	5,409,485	4/25/95	Suda			
	5,432,459	7/11/95	Thompson			
	5,436,566	7/25/95	Thompson			
	5,445,635	8/29/95	Denen			
	5,540,683	7/30/96	Ichikawa			
	5,558,671	9/24/96	Yates			
	5,573,533	11/12/96	Strul			
	5,647,869	7/15/97	Goble			
	5,647,871	7/15/97	Levine			
	5,722,975	3/3/98	Edwards			
	5,755,715	5/26/98	Stern			
	5,769,847	6/23/98	Panescu			
	5,797,802	8/25/98	Nowak			
	5,830,212	11/3/98	Cartmell			
	5,836,990	11/17/98	Li			
	5,931,836	8/3/99	Hatta			

Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.



without references

Sheet

2 of

6

Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

2155CIP2A(203-3398CIP2A)

Application Number

10/626,390

Applicant

Wham et al.

Filing Date

July 24, 2003

Group Art Number

3739

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	5,951,545	9/14/99	Schilling			
	6,063,075	5/16/00	Mihori			
	6,113,596	9/5/00	Hooven			
	6,228,081	5/8/01	Goble			
	6,231,569	5/15/01	Bek			
	6,238,388	5/29/01	Ellman			
	6,245,065	6/12/01	Panescu			
	6,261,285	7/17/01	Novak			
	6,273,886	8/14/01	Edwards			
	6,275,786	8/14/01	Daners			
	6,293,941	9/25/01	Strul			
	6,309,386	10/30/01	Bek			
	6,338,657	1/15/02	Harper et al.			
	6,358,245	3/19/02	Edwards			
	6,398,779	6/4/02	Buyse			
	6,458,121	10/1/02	Rosenstock			
	6,464,689	10/15/02	Qin			
	6,464,696	10/15/02	Oyama			
	6,508,815	1/21/03	Strul			
	6,547,786	4/15/03	Goble			
	6,562,037	5/13/03	Paton			
	6,623,423	9/23/03	Sakurai			
	6,635,057	10/21/03	Harano			
	6,648,883	11/18/03	Francischelli			
	6,652,514	11/25/03	Ellman			
	6,663,624	12/16/03	Edwards			

Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.



without references

Sheet

3 of

6

Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)  
2155CIP2A(203-3398CIP2A)Application Number  
10/626,390

Applicant

Wham et al.

Filing Date

July 24, 2003

Group Art Number

3739

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	6,666,860	12/23/03	Takahashi			
	6,679,875	1/20/04	Honda			
	6,685,700	2/3/04	Behl			
	6,692,489	2/17/04	Heim			
	6,712,813	3/30/04	Ellman			
	6,730,080	5/4/04	Harano			
	6,733,495	5/11/04	Bek			
	6,733,498	5/11/04	Paton			
	6,740,079	5/25/04	Eggers			
	6,740,085	5/25/04	Hareyama			
	6,783,523	8/31/04	Qin			
	6,790,206	9/14/04	Panescu			
	6,796,981	9/28/04	Wham			
	6,824,539	11/30/04	Novak			
	6,830,569	12/14/04	Thompson			
	6,843,789	1/18/05	Goble			
	6,849,073	2/1/05	Hoey			
	6,855,141	2/15/05	Lovewell			
	6,855,142	2/15/05	Harano			
	6,860,881	3/1/05	Sturm			
	6,864,686	3/8/05	Novak			
	6,875,210	4/5/05	Refior			
	6,893,435	5/17/05	Roane			

Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

<b>Form PTO-1449</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	<b>Docket Number (Optional)</b> 2155CIP2A(203-3398CIP2A)	<b>Application Number</b> 10/626,390
	<b>Applicant</b> Wham et al.	
	<b>Filing Date</b> July 24, 2003	<b>Group Art Number</b> 3739

**U.S. PUBLISHED PATENT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS**

Examine Initial	Document Number	Publication Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	US2002/0035364 A1	3/21/02	Schoenman et al.			
	US2002/0068932 A1	6/6/02	Edwards			
	US2002/0193787 A1	12/19/02	Qin			
	US2003/0078572 A1	4/24/03	Pearson et al.			
	US2003/0153908 A1	8/14/03	Goble			
	US2003/0163123 A1	8/28/03	Goble			
	US2003/0163124 A1	08/28/03	Goble			
	US2003/0171745 A1	09/11/03	Francischelli			
	US2003/0199863 A1	10/23/03	Swanson			
	US2003/0060818 A1	03/27/03	Kannenberg			
	US2004/0002745 A1	1/1/04	Flemming			
	US2004/0019347 A1	1/29/04	Sakurai			
	US2004/0024395 A1	2/5/04	Ellman			
	US2004/0030328 A1	2/12/04	Eggers			
	US2004/0044339 A1	3/4/04	Beller			
	US2004/0049179 A1	3/11/04	Francischelli			
	US2004/0054365 A1	3/18/04	Goble			
	US2004/0068304 A1	4/8/04	Paton			
	US2004/0082946 A1	4/29/04	Malis			
	US2004/0097912 A1	5/20/04	Gonnering			
	US2004/0097914 A1	5/20/04	Pantera			
	US2004/0097915 A1	5/20/04	Refior			
	US2004/0116919 A1	6/17/04	Heim			
	US2004/0133189 A1	7/8/04	Sakurai			

<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Date Considered</b>
-----------------	------------------------

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

<b>Form PTO-1449</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)			<b>Docket Number (Optional)</b> 2155CIP2A(203-3398CIP2A)		<b>Application Number</b> 10/626,390	
			<b>Applicant</b>  Wham et al.			
			<b>Filing Date</b> July 24, 2003		<b>Group Art Number</b> 3739	
<b>U.S. PUBLISHED PATENT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS</b>						
<b>Examine Initial</b>	<b>Document Number</b>	<b>Publication Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Subclass</b>	<b>Filing Date if Appropriate</b>
	US2004/0138653 A1	7/15/04	Dabney			
	US2004/0138654 A1	7/15/04	Goble			
	US2004/0172016 A1	9/2/04	Bek			
	US2004/0230189 A1	11/18/04	Keppel			
	US2004/0260279 A1	12/23/04	Goble			
	US2005/0004564 A1	1/6/05	Wham			
	US2005/0101951 A1	5/12/05	Wham			
	US2005/0113818 A1	05/26/05	Sartor			
	US2005/0113819 A1	05/26/05	Wham			
	US2005/0149151 A1	07/07/05	Orszulak			
	US2005/0182398 A1	08/18/05	Paterson			
	US2005/0197659 A1	09/08/05	Bahney			
	US2005/0021022 A1	01/27/05	Sturm et al.			
	US2005/0203504 A1	09/15/05	Wham et al.			
<b>Examiner</b>				<b>Date Considered</b>		
<b>Examiner:</b> Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.						



